

# Good News From Chardon

November 15, 2020  
Issue 46



128 Maple Ave. 440-286-5505

## The High Cost of Following Jesus

By Joe Chesser

Sometimes we are not honest with ourselves. Sometimes we say the things we think we should say or ask things we don't really mean.

Such was the case with the young man in Matthew 19. He approached Jesus with a serious sounding question: "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life" (Matt. 19.16). This was a great question! He went to Jesus because he believed he was a "good teacher" (Mark 10.17). It sounds like he was truly willing to do whatever it took to go to heaven, especially when Jesus replied, "obey the commandments" (19.17). He basically replied, "I've already done that. What else do I need to do?" (19.20). However, his true heart surfaced when Jesus told him to sell his possessions, give the money to the poor, and follow him (19.21). Although it made him sad, he went away because his wealth was more important than eternal life (19.22). He wasn't willing to pay the price to follow Jesus.

Satan wants us to see how close we can get to following Jesus without making a total commitment. He loves it when people ask questions like "Is church attendance a salvation issue?" or "How short can I wear my skirt?" or "How many drinks can I have?" In other words, "What is the least (or most) I can do and still get into heaven?" And then, like the young man above, we decide if Jesus is asking us to do too much.

But following Jesus is not a matter of "how much" or "how little." To Jesus, the cost of following him has always been total commitment. For the young man, it meant selling all of his possessions and giving them away. For the apostles, following Jesus meant leaving their jobs (Matt. 4.19-20; 9.9; John 1.43). For Paul it meant reevaluating everything he once held very important (Phil. 3.7). For everyone it means dying to self every day (Luke 9.23); it means carrying our own cross and giving up everything we have (Luke 14.27, 33); it means making no excuses (Matt. 8.21); it means loving Jesus more than our families (Luke 14.26); it means offering our bodies a living sacrifice (Rom. 12.1-2); it means going against the crowds (Matt. 7.13-14); it means holding to the teachings of Jesus (John 8.31); it means crucifying fleshly passions and desires (Gal. 5.24); it means becoming fishers of men (Matt. 4.19); it means living the rest of your life for the will of God (1 Peter 4.2); it means crucifying yourself and allowing Jesus to live in you (Gal. 2.20).

Even though there is nothing we can do to earn our salvation, following Jesus is none-the-less extremely costly. Following Jesus means holding nothing back. Absolutely nothing! Yet remember, with God, all things are possible (Matt 19.25-26)!

Joe Chesser preaches for the Fruitland Church of Christ, Fruitland, MO

### Schedule of Services:

**Greeting:** Tom

**Song Leader:** Ray

**Opening Hymn:**

54—Did You Think To Pray

**Opening Prayer:** Tom

**Hymn:**

654—Abide With Me

**Scripture Reading:** Larry

Matthew 19:23-30

**Hymn:**

287—The Lord's Supper

**Lord's Supper:** Mark

**Hymn:**

83—Someone Did A Golden Deed

**Sermon:** Tom

**Invitation Hymn:**

522—Jesus Saves

**Closing Hymn:**

392—An Empty Mansion

**Closing Prayer:** Ray

**PRAYER LIST**

- \*Ryan will be having a sleep study next weekend.
- \*Ron and Bonnie and their family. Several of their extended family has COVID 19.
- \*Margaret and Albert.
- \*Wanda and her family.
- \*Kathy and her friends.
- \*Zarna Several members of her family in India have the virus.
- \*Larry and Ruth.
- \*Pat and Ron and their daughters.
- \*Juanita's sister Betty.
- \*Mary and her family.
- \*Robert and Sara
- \*Juanita and her family
- \*Ray and Barbara
- \*Dale and his family.
- \*Ray, Rebecca, and Steven.
- \*Myron & Carole
- \*Mark and his family.

**CALENDAR**

- Nov. 15—Worship 11 am  
Speaker: Tom
- Nov. 15—Bible Study 6 pm  
on-line with Dale
- Nov. 16—(b.) Kathy
- Nov. 19—(b.) Connor
- Nov. 19—(b.) Dillion
- Nov. 22—Worship 11 am  
Speaker: Tom
- Nov. 22—Bible Study 6 pm  
on-line with Dale
- Nov. 22—(b.) Ray S.
- Nov. 25—(a.) Larry & Ruth
- Nov. 26—Thanksgiving
- Nov. 29—Worship 11 am

**With God All Things Are Possible**

Scripture Reference: Matthew 19:23-30

ANSWERED	ASSUREDLY	ASTONISHED	BROTHERS
CHILDREN	DISCIPLES	EASIER	ETERNAL
EVERYONE	FATHER	FOLLOWED	GREATLY
HEAVEN	HOUSES	HUNDREDFOLD	INHERIT
ISRAEL	JUDGING	KINGDOM	MOTHER
NEEDLE	RECEIVE	REGENERATION	SAVED
SAYING	SISTERS	THEREFORE	THRONE
THRONES	THROUGH	TRIBES	TWELVE

T B D U T N J S E S S U S L O O K E  
W C D L E T R A D A T T H Y E M A N  
E H T E O E H D V I S T L A D I D T  
L I D H H F O E T H S T H E E M W I  
V L T T R N D H R M A C E R W N T H  
E D O I S O D E D E H S I N O T S A  
I R S I M I U E R R F P O P L N S S  
B E I B L T E G R D E O B U L T E E  
L N N E V A E H H E N I R W O E V G  
E Y L D E R U S S A W U S E F E S N  
A I T E T E R N A L H S H A R I T I  
R G O S E N O R H T D A N Y E N R G  
S F A T H E R L L G T H O A C H I D  
I E M O D G N I K I N N N G E E B U  
S A S S R E T S I S E I R E I R E J  
P O S U S R M O T H E R Y I V I S B  
L E Q D O L W M G N N X V A E T J R  
V K B O S H J I L C K X W R S L W B

Hidden Message: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Answer to Puzzle But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

**One thing you can give and still keep  
is your word.**

**SUNDAY: Worship — 11:00 am; Bible Study — 6:00 pm (on Zoom);**  
**Website: [Chardonchurchofchrist.org](http://Chardonchurchofchrist.org)**  
**E-mail: [church\\_of\\_Christ@roadrunner.com](mailto:church_of_Christ@roadrunner.com)**  
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